

has nevertheless been accepted as the name of the form of which *saltonis* may perhaps be regarded as the extreme manifestation. In the opinion of the A. O. U. Committee there is not room nor good reason for admitting two forms of the pallid phase of the Song Sparrow. It unfortunately happens that this is another of the many cases where the type of a form is unsatisfactory, being more or less intermediate between two forms which are sufficiently differentiated in their respective areas of full development. To make such an unfortunate circumstance the basis or excuse for another 'split' seems hardly the wisest way to deal with such cases.— J. A. A.

Widmann on 'The Summer Birds of Shaw's Garden.'— Shaw's Garden,¹ or the Missouri Botanical Garden, at St. Louis, Mo., is the summer home of forty species of birds, while six others are here recorded as "more or less regular visitors from nearby breeding grounds." It is believed that several others would nest within the Garden if suitable nesting-boxes were provided for them, and suggestions are made for their arrangement in a way to render them undesirable to the House Sparrows.

Of many species of European songbirds introduced into St. Louis about 1870, only two seem to have secured a permanent foothold. These are the House Sparrow and the European Tree Sparrow. The former soon became abundant at St. Louis, as elsewhere; the latter has been able to maintain its foothold in various parts of the city, Shaw's Garden having "always been, and still is, one of the few places where the Tree Sparrow has found refuge and succeeds in rearing a few broods." The difference between the two species, in habits and temperament as well as in size and markings, are pointed out, and further emphasized by an excellent colored plate representing both species. The Tree Sparrow has suffered from the tyranny and persecution of its larger, more pugnacious and more prolific fellow-countryman, the House Sparrow, a plea for the repression of which and for the encouragement of the Tree Sparrow is here made. St. Louis and vicinity, says Mr. Widmann, is the only place in America where the Tree Sparrow occurs.

In his pleasant comment on the status and traits of the various species of summer birds in the Garden, he states that "the number of Blue Jays and Bronzed Grackles should always be kept limited to a very few pairs during the breeding time," owing to their depredations upon the eggs and nestlings of the smaller birds.— J. A. A.

Cole on 'The Crow as a Menace to Poultry Raising.'²— The economic relation of the Crow to agriculture is still an unsettled question, not so much in reference to its direct attacks upon farm crops and poultry, which are

¹ Summer Birds of Shaw's Garden. By Otto Widmann. 20th Ann. Rep. Missouri Botanical Garden, pp. 41-80, pl. i, colored.

² The Crow a Menace to Poultry Raising. By Leon J. Cole. 21st Ann. Rep. Rhode Island Agric. Experiment Station, pp. 312-316, January, 1909.